Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (popularly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme) children studying at primary level in Government, Government-aided and local body schools; and in Education Guarantee Scheme and other alternative learning Centres, are being covered for which this Ministry provides food grains, free of cost at rate of 100 gram per child per school day. The cost of the foodgrains are reimbursed to Food Corporation of India. Based on the proposals received from the States/Districts agencies transportation charges are also being reimbursed. Year-wise expenditure incurred on the scheme during the last five years is given hereunder :

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
1998-1999	1600.15
1999-2000	1500.00
2000-2001	1299.00
2001-2002	1030.26
2002-2003	1099.03

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Based on the central support mentioned above States/ UTs are required to provide cooked meals as stipulated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The defaulting States/UTs are being constantly urged to implement the orders of the Hon'ble Court.

Amount for adult education in NER

5198. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount earmarked for adult education in the North-Eastern Region during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) The details of the amount spent on adult education in the region during Ninth Five Year Plan, year-wise; and

(c) the details of amount proposed to be earmarked for the purpose during the Tenth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No separate amount was earmarked for adult education in the North Eastern Region (NER) during Eighth and Ninth Five year Plan.

(b) The details of the amount spent on adult education in the North Eastern Region during Ninth Five-Year Plan, year-wise, is annexed as Statement. (*See* below).

(c) No separate allocation has been earmarked for the North eastern Region during 10th Five Year Plan. However, in the Annual Plans, 10% of the budget

provision for adult education is earmarked for the NER. The details of the allocation for the NER during the first two years of the 10th Plan are given below :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Annual Plan outlay for Adult Education	Allocation for NER
2002-03	233.00	23.30
2003-04	233.00	23.30

Statement

Details of Amount Spent for adult education in NER

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl No.	States	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.67	—	—	—	—
2.	Assam	86.97	210.61	332.99	166.15	106.34
3.	Manipur	17.94	25.55	8.70	2.61	7.50
4.	Meghalaya	16.85	36.00	12.50	25.50	33.88
5.	Mizoram	34.23	49.52	—	59.40	131.80
6.	Nagaland	32.36	27.88	—	—	—
7.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Tripura	31.00	41.32	10.00	30.50	421.05
	TOTAL	223.02	390.88	364.19	284.16	700.57

Permission to foreign scholars

5199. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry's approval will be necessary before a foreign scholar can take up any study/research on any Indian subject; and

(b) if so, what purpose will it serve to our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJI BHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The guidelines for approval of study/research by foreign scholar in India have been formulated keeping in view the security and sensitivity angle in mind.